<u>Claims</u>

1. Coating device for coating a metal strip (12) in a metal melt (14),

comprising a shaft (16,18) rotatably supported in the metal melt (14) by means of a slide bearing $(26_1,26_2)$, for guiding the metal strip (12),

the slide bearing $(26_1, 26_2)$ being formed by a bearing housing (32) and a bearing bush (34) with a pair $(36_1 - 36_4)$ of bearing surfaces held therein,

characterized in

that the bearing bush (34) is circumferentially closed and comprises at least three bearing surfaces (38) forming several pairs (36₁ - 36₄) of bearing surfaces,

that the bearing bush (34) is adapted to be set in several rotational positions in circumferential direction in the bearing housing (32), and

that a releasable bearing bush fixing element (40) is provided by means of which the bearing bush (34) is adapted to be locked in the set rotational position with respect to the bearing housing (32).

- 2. Coating device according to claim 1, characterized in that the bearing bush (34) comprises several pairs $(36_1 36_4)$ of bearing surfaces.
- 3. Coating device according to claim 2, characterized in that the bearing bush (34) comprises four pairs (36₁ 36₄) of bearing surfaces.

- 4. Coating device according to one of claims 1 3, characterized in that the bearing surfaces (38) are equally distributed over the circumference of the bearing bush and form an equilateral polygon.
- 5. Coating device according to one of claims 1 4, characterized in that the bearing bush (34) comprises at least two fixing grooves ($42_1 42_4$) at its outside into which the fixing element (40) is insertable for locking the bearing bush.
- 6. Coating device according to one of claims 1 5, characterized in that each pair $(36_1 36_4)$ of bearing surfaces has a fixing groove $(42_1 42_4)$ associated thereto.
- 7. Coating device according to one of claims 1 6, characterized in that the bearing bush (34) consists of ceramics.
- 8. Coating device according to one of claims 1 7, characterized in that the shaft forms a stabilizing shaft (18).